

Message Text

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ORIGIN DHA-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF; ICEM

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF FINANCING OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRATION (ICEM)

1. AT THE 1976 FALL SESSIONS OF ICEMS GOVERNING BODIES
IN GENEVA THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS AGREED THAT BECAUSE OF
CHRONIC DIFFICULTIES IN FINANCING ICEMS ADMINISTRATIVE AND
OPERATIONAL BUDGETS A SPECIAL REVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATIONS
FINANCIAL STRUCTURE SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN ON A PRIORITY
BASIS. THE U.S. TOOK THE LEAD IN SUGGESTING THIS REVIEW
AND INDICATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO DEVELOP NEW FINANCIAL
PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE MEMBERS IN THE SPRING
OF 1977.

2. THE FIRST OFFICIAL ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS IS NOW SCHED-
ULED FOR MARCH 31-APRIL 1 IN GENEVA IN THE SUB-COMMITTEE
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ON BUDGET AND FINANCE (SCBF), CHAIRED BY THE NETHERLANDS.
THE NETHERLANDS REPRESENTATIVE IS MR. GERALD D.J. KRAAN,
DIRECTOR OF EMIGRATION, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS, THE
HAGUE. KRAAN HAS LONG BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ICEMS ACTI-
VITIES AND IS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF THE ORGANIZATION.
IT IS EXPECTED THAT HE WILL BE ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE
FALL SESSION OF THE ICEM COUNCIL AND WILL THUS PLAY A

PROMINENT AND KEY ROLE IN THE REVIEW PROCESS IN THE SCBF
AND THE COUNCIL DURING 1977. KRAAN OVER THE YEARS HAS

ALWAYS BEEN VERY HELPFUL IN UNDERSTANDING U.S. POSITIONS
ON CRITICAL ICEM MATTERS.

3. FOR THE FINANCIAL REVIEW TO SUCCEED IT WILL BE IMPOR-
TANT TO HAVE THE CLOSEST COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE SCBF
CHAIRMAN AND THE DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO MARCH 31. U.S. PRO-
POSALS ARE NOW UNDER STUDY IN D/HA, AND, WHEN FINALLY
DEVELOPED, AN INFORMAL REVIEW BY KRAAN AND A COMPREHENSIVE
DISCUSSION WITH HIM WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL. ACCORDINGLY,
IF THE EMBASSY DOES NOT CONSIDER IT INAPPROPRIATE, AN
APPROACH TO THE GON SHOULD BE MADE TO DETERMINE IF KRAAN
MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON FOR A
3-4 DAY PERIOD IN EARLY MARCH. KRAAN INDICATED LAST FALL
THAT HE WOULD BE DISPOSED TO MAKE SUCH A VISIT. IN
EXTENDING THIS INVITATION, EMBASSY SHOULD INDICATE HOW
HIGHLY WE VALUE MR. KRAAN'S ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE OF
ICEM ACTIVITIES. SHOULD THIS NOT PROVE PRACTICAL, THEN
U.S. REP TO SCBF WOULD WANT TO MEET WITH KRAAN JUST
PRIOR TO MARCH 31 SCBF MEETING IN GENEVA.
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